N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Dkt. No.:15225/41

Group Art Unit: 3737

SE TO (BER 7, 2001

Filed: March 30, 2000

erisi No.: 09/539,015

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

Whiteant: Thomas R. Winston, et al.

GUIDING A GUIDE WIRE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 7, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box FEE-AMENDMENT Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated November 7, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a request for a three month extension of time is submitted herewith to timely extend the due date of this response to this Office Action of November 7, 2001 for the above identified patent application from February 7, 2002 through and including May 7, 2002. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a), authorization to charge deposit account 01-2384 in the amount of \$460.00 to cover this extension of time request of three months is timely submitted herewith.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title and before the first line of text insert the sentence as a first paragraph:

This application is a continuation in part of USSN 09/060,487 filed April 15, 1998 which is a continuation in part of USSN 08/943,386 filed October 3, 1997 now US

(once amended) Apparatus configured to guide a guide wire through body

Patent 5,951,482.

In the Claims:

tissue, said apparatus comprising a guide wire with at least one interferometric guidance system coupled thereto, said interferometric guidance system for generating interference

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information from the body tissue, said interferometric system comprising a circuit for